

Officer of Central Secretariat Service (CSS) is decentralised and the sanctioned strength as on 1.7.2000 as reported by the cadre authorities is 2353. There is no provision in the CSS Rules, 1962 to fill these posts on deputation basis.

(b) As per details furnished by the cadres, the actual strength of regular and ad-hoc Section Officers was 2142 and 162 respectively as on 1.7.2000.

(c) and (d) Ad-hoc appointments are made only as a stop-gap arrangement so as to ensure that the normal office work does not suffer and is intended to continue till regular officers become available.

(e) Appointments to the post of Section Officer in Central Secretariat in the ratio of 20:40:40. 20% of the vacancies are filled by direct recruitment through Civil Services Examination conducted by the UPSC; 40% are filled through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) for Assistants of CSS and Stenographers Grade 'C' of CSSS with 5 years of approved service; and the balance 40% through seniority quota with 8 years of approved service as Assistant. The grade of Section Officers being decentralised, individual cadre authorities work out the vacancy position as per the prescribed percentage and report the same to Department of Personnel & Training who in turn advice the total vacancy position for direct recruitment quota and LDCE quota to the UPSC. In so far as LDCE quota for the Select List 2000 is concerned, 40 vacancies have been reported to the UPSC.

Taking VRS one day ahead of superannuation

***180. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI RAJU PARMAR:**

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news-item captioned "How to rip-off Government Coffers by retiring

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RAJYA SABHA

a day early" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times,' New Delhi dated the 1st June, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the number of Government employees who have taken voluntary retirement a day ahead of their superannuation date during the last two years;

(d) the extra amount Government have to shell out on account of such cases;

(e) whether Government would rectify the lacunae in CCS Pension Rules; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The contents of the news-item are partially correct to the extent that early superannuation gives the advantage of higher commutation factor for the amount of pension commuted but there is no advantage in the amount payable in gratuity. The existing rules provide for premature retirement.

(c) and (d) As pension sanction and payment is decentralized in the Central Government, no centralized record is maintained in this Ministry regarding number of Government servants who have retired voluntarily prior to their normal date of superannuation.

(e) and (f) There is no lacunae in the existing CCS (Pension) and Commutation of Pension Rules.